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Kirk Rejects Protest On CIA Campus Visit

Despite student protests, Columbia University's campus will remain open to the Central Intelligence Agency and all other prospective employers who wish to interview students, Grayson Kirk, university president, declared yesterday.

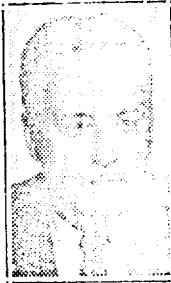
Addressing an capacity crowd of 500 students in the Low Memorial Kirk pointed out that Columbia does not invite employers nor does it urge students to speak to them.

The students were merely considering job opportunities and the employers were only exploring and discussing their offerings, he said.

The CIA had been scheduled to interview Columbia students on Nov. 14 but called off the talks after about 300 students staged a protest demonstration.

Rally Outside Library

Prior to Kirk's talk yesterday, the Students for a Democratic Society rallied outside the library



Grayson
Kirk

to press its demand that the school bar the CIA.

John Fuerst, a Columbia senior from New Rochelle, compared the CIA to narcotics pushers, saying both are engaged in illegal activity and neither should grace the campus.

Also addressing the outside rally were Nicholas Eggelson of Chicago, the national president of the SDS, and Robert Dillor, a Columbia graduate student who said he was from the Independent Committee Against the War in Viet Nam.

Kirk said later that it was unusual for a university president to answer an invitation to speak to an ad hoc student gathering. But, he explained, he wanted to impress on the SDS that "Columbia University as an institution does not take a position nor make a judgment. When a university becomes partisan, it loses its own freedom."

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